Forest Appreciation Week Writing Contest for Wisconsin 4th Graders

2005 Theme: "My Favorite Tree"

Each year the Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division encourages fourth grade students across Wisconsin to think and write about our forests and trees through our Forest Appreciation Week Writing Contest.

Our 2005 writing contest theme is "My Favorite Tree." Please encourage your students to participate and to celebrate our natural resources from Earth Day to Arbor Day. Students should write about a special neighborhood, backyard, schoolyard, farmstead or woodland tree and describe how much their special tree contributes to their lives.

Contest Requirements:

- Fourth Grade Students Only
- Submit **only one (1) entry** per classroom
- Any written form, including essay, poetry or other type of creative writing is acceptable. The entry must be 200 words or less and follow the year 2005 theme, "My Favorite Tree."
- Writing must be the original work of a student currently in fourth grade.
- A participant report form must be attached to your classroom entry. Your classroom entry must be sent to the designated judging team coordinator listed in the 2005 writing contest packet. Note: Contest packets will be mailed to fourth grade teachers in late January.
- Twelve semi-finalists will be chosen. The essays of the semi-finalists will appear in the 2006 Arbor Day/Earth Day calendar. A panel of judges from the Department of Natural Resources will review the 12 semi-finalists and select the top three state winners.
- The selected top three state winners will be recognized for their achievement at a special celebration in our state capitol and will be presented with savings bonds of \$100, \$75, and \$50 respectively. The Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association donates the awards. They will also receive a landscape tree to be planted at their school or in their community, donated by the Wisconsin Nursery Association. Parents, students and teachers will be honored.

Entries must be postmarked by March 4, 2005

For more information contact: Forestry Appreciation Week Writing Contest. Wisconsin DNR, Forestry Division, PO Box 7921, Madison WI 53707-7921; email: genny.fannucchi@dnr.state.wi.us

or visit the forestry section of the DNR Website at: http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/